

1. Requirement Statement: Research and development will be performed to investigate new types of snow accumulation/melt models, including energy balance models.

2. Background: The current snow melt model, Snow17, is a conceptual model. Energy forcing data is emerging that may facilitate the use of full energy budget models. Such models may provide more accurate simulations.

Research and Development Project	Project Justification		
	Service Benefit	Science	Other
Snow Model Research Elements 1. Ongoing Snow Model Intercomparison Project (SnowMIP) 2. Future HL R&D based on SnowMIP findings.	1. All RFCs 2. AKRFC runs energy balance snow model for river ice break-up. 3. Snow accumulation and melt is a dominate hydrologic component in West.	1. Energy Balance snow models may provide improved forecasts in certain cases (e.g., Jan. 1996 flood in Northeast). 2. Forcings needed for energy budget models are now becoming available.	1. Recommendations from 1996 Flood Disaster Report for North East USA 2. SnowMIP is underway: NWS is major participant with NCEP in this int l project. Recommendations likely to direct future HL snow research.

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